



3738

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: V.C. Chandrasekaran et al. Attorney Docket No.: BSCO115540

Application No.: 09/815,892 Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: March 23, 2001 Examiner: D. Willse

Title: MEDICAL DEVICE HAVING RADIO-OPACIFICATION AND BARRIER LAYERS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO ELECTION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Seattle, Washington 98101

December 5, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

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A. Amendment Transmittal

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- X 1. No additional claim fee is required, as shown below.

COMPUTATION OF FEE FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid For | Present Extra | Rate | Additional Fee |
|--------------------|---|---|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Total Claims | 21 | - | 23 | = 0 x 18 = | 0 |
| Independent Claims | 2 | - | 5 | = 0 x 84 = | 0 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$0 |

B. Additional Fee Charges or Credit for Overpayment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request

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for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on the below date.

Date: December 5, 2002



BCS:cg

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In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-16, amend Claim 17, and add new Claims 24-37 as shown below:

17. (Amended) A method of treating an occluded vessel with a stent, comprising the acts of:

routing a delivery catheter having the stent mounted or restrained thereon to a position proximal to the diseased section of the vessel wherein the stent is of the type that includes: a core having an outer surface, means for increasing the visibility of the core to *in-vivo* viewing methods, and means for establishing a barrier on the outer surface of the device so that the visibility increasing means is isolated from a patient's blood;

deploying the stent from the delivery catheter;

expanding the stent into abutment against the interior lining of the diseased vessel so as to provide a support mechanism to prevent closure of the vessel.

24. (New) The device of Claim 18, wherein the means for establishing a barrier on the outer surface of the device comprises an outer layer surrounding at least a portion of the core to form a barrier layer between the core and the patient's blood.